

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A sandwich assay for collagen degradation products in which antibodies of essentially identical specificity are used on both sides of the sandwich.
- 10 2. A method of measurement of the rate of type II collagen resorption comprising measuring in a sample the amount of a population of collagen type II fragments by a sandwich assay comprising forming antibody-fragment-antibody complexes involving a first antibody reactive with first occurrence in said fragments of an epitope located in or comprised by part of the collagen type II amino acid sequence and a second antibody specifically reactive with a second occurrence of said epitope in said fragments by reacting each antibody with said fragments, and measuring the amount of said complexes formed.
- 15 3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the same antibody is used as said first antibody and as said second antibody.
- 20 4. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said collagen type II amino acid sequence is EKGPD_P.
- 25 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the measured amount of said complexes is compared with calibration values correlating said amount to a clinical condition.
6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said clinical condition is cartilage resorption, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis or other inflammatory joint disease.